



EIGHT NEW SCOUTS were invested into the 1st Acton Troop last Thursday night in a ceremony attended by parents and friends in the scout hall. Skip Henry De Vries and Bosun Kevin Conroy conducted the brief but impressive ceremony and the

boys were conducted back to their respective patrols. The new scouts, Bruce Swift, Colin Priest, Leslie Coles, Mark Rowe, Barry Allan, Mark Pratt, Joe McConnell and Barry Payne, pose with Scoutmaster De Vries. (Staff Photo)

Fall election to name 20-man school board covering all of Halton

Halton's new county-wide Board of Education will be elected probably in the fall of this year to take office January 1, 1969. It will replace the county's present 10 boards.

The 20 member group will be elected for two year terms and include representatives of the various Separate School Boards in the county. Municipal representation on the board will be determined by the county council.

The new board will submit its requests for capital expenditures directly to the Ontario Municipal Board for approval and its operating funds will be raised on a separate tax bill. The bill is expected to be issued by the local municipalities and must indicate the amount for secondary and for elementary school purposes.

The Ontario Department of Education released its white paper on The Reorganization of School Jurisdictions in the Province of Ontario last week detailing the objectives and procedures involved in establishing the province-wide plan of county boards of education replacing the township and district school boards and boards of education.

First responsibility of the local boards is to name a representative to an Interim School Organization Committee. One representative from each board or board of education is to be named. Milton, Acton and Georgetown each have two boards while Burlington and Oakville each operate under a combined board. Esquesing and Nassagaweya also have representation on the High School Boards of Acton, Milton and Georgetown. The composition of the committee would include eight members under the outline.

Representation on the county board of education is to be determined by the County Council. The size of the board is set up on the basis of population with counties over 150,000 having 20 trustees. The number of Separate School members is based on the relationship of public and separate school assessments.

The Interim School Organization Committee, with representatives from all the county boards, is to prepare a comprehensive

Family Counselling Service handles 298 cases in year

Halton County Family Counselling Service handled 298 cases throughout 1967, it was noted in a report to County council recently.

This included 14 in Acton, 111 in Burlington, one in Esquesing, 29 in Georgetown, 47 in Milton, four in Nassagaweya and 92 in Oakville.

A total of 1,103 interviews were conducted, and as of December 31, 52 cases were active. This represents a slight decrease in referrals from 1966, but an increase in interviews.

Twenty couples attended marriage counselling classes last winter. This year, a second series is being conducted, with lectures by doctors, lawyers, ministers, financial authorities, two home economists and the director of the service.

Reconciliation between husbands and wives was estimated at 50 per cent, and other families and individuals were helped to make decisions in other areas of life, and coping with their problems.

Referrals leading to active cases included 129 from family

court, 35 from agencies and 134 private.

Concluding the submission, Family Counselling Director Rennie J. Vivian stated he believed a milestone had been reached in the service's short history, and further development is necessary.

Thanks were expressed to the County clerk-administrator and his staff for their assistance, and the need for more personnel, training, office space and finances was cited.

Area speaking final tonight

Seven students of local schools within the local superintendency will compete this evening (Wednesday) at Milton's Martin St. Senior Public school general purpose room to decide the public speaking champion of Nassagaweya, Acton and Milton.

The winner from this competition will represent this area in the district competition to be held shortly.

— Our Readers Write —

CALLS FOR HALT IN VIET NAM WAR

To the Editor:

The war in Viet Nam is a tragic mistake, a waste of human and material resources.

The Vietnamese conflict is costing the United States over thirty billion dollars a year. This staggering burden has resulted in the smallest United States vote for economic aid in twenty years, just 1.9 billion dollars or less than 7% of the Viet Nam war budget.

At one time the chief anchor of United States foreign policy was economic aid to the free world and to the developing nations. But no more as United States economic aid has been sacrificed on the altar of war in Viet Nam.

How will it help freedom if the United States' failure to provide economic assistance results in economic collapse in India or Africa or parts of South America with a subsequent Communist takeover.

The war cannot be won. Incessant bombing of the North has made thousands of civilians homeless, has damaged local industry and has blown up sections of the railroad and main supply highways. But the morale of the North Vietnamese is high, as morale remained high in Britain in the dark days of the Blitz. Damaged industry

is restored, and the bombed highways and railroads are back in operation in a matter of hours.

North Vietnamese supplies of arms from the Soviet Union and China are increased as the need arises, and so in a real sense this is a miniature war between the United States on one hand and Russia and China on the other. United States, China and Russia supply the arms, the United States, and the North and South Vietnamese, then supply the human lives.

The solution must be peace, and the only way to achieve peace is by the cessation of bombing, then negotiation followed by the withdrawal of the United States troops.

Some say that then Viet Nam will go Communist. The answer must surely be that North Viet Nam is already Communist and even the United States does not claim it wishes to overthrow the North Viet Nam regime. In the South the opponents are the National Liberation Front, a combination of a number of political elements. The objective should be a coalition government in the South based on peace, neutralism and reconstruction.

The Communist world is no longer a monolithic structure taking orders from the Kremlin. There is a growing independence among Eastern European Communist states. Yugoslavia follows an independent course adopting important elements of

a capitalistic economy. Rumania follows an independent course so much that a Rumanian is now President of the United Nations. Even the giants, Russia and China, follow separate courses based on national goals. Peace in Viet Nam will create the possibilities of emerging national governments based more on nationalism than on Communism.

Canadians at all levels through their government, through organizations and as individuals should press for an end of the Viet Nam war.

Senator Hazen Argue

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